

VZCZCXYZ0002
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHAK #2037 2211342
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 091342Z AUG 07
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3322
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0070
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 5873
RHMFIASS/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU PRIORITY
RHMFIASS/425ABS IZMIR TU//CC// PRIORITY
RHMFIASS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHMFIASS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5// PRIORITY
RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA/DSCA// PRIORITY
RUEHAK/USDAO ANKARA TU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 002037

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/09/2022

TAGS: PREL MOPS NATO AF TU

SUBJECT: TURKS EXPRESS CONCERN OVER AUGUST 4 CHECKPOINT
INCIDENT NEAR KABUL

REF: ANKARA-KABUL-CENTCOM E-MAILS

Classified By: CDA Nancy McEldowney for reasons 1.4 (b,d).

¶1. (C) MFA Undersecretary Apakan and D/CHOD Saygun have contacted Charge to discuss an August 4 incident near Kabul during which a U.S. patrol fired on a vehicle carrying Turkish ISAF soldiers. The Turks expressed concern about the encounter and noted a strong desire for closer coordination to avoid such incidents in the future.

¶2. (C) We followed up with Embassy Kabul, USNATO, and CENTCOM to obtain preliminary information on the incident. Charge briefed Saygun August 9 on our understanding that a non-tactical vehicle carrying two Turkish soldiers was fired upon after disregarding signals to stop by a U.S. foot patrol from Task Force Phoenix. We understand that TF Phoenix is conducting an investigation. Saygun said it was essential to coordinate better to avoid incidents of this kind and agreed that neither side should make the incident public.

Visit Ankara's Classified Web Site at
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/ankara/>

MCELDOWNNEY